

In the claims

The following is an amendment to and complete listing of the claims that replaces all prior listings of claims in this application.

1.(currently amended) A sports shoe ~~Shoe or footwear item for racket sport,~~ comprising, ~~a sole whose outer face (1a) is intended to come into contact with the ground and of which the inner face (2b) is intended to come into contact with the foot of a user, said sole comprising a dynamic element, extending longitudinally with respect to~~ having a longitudinal axis (L) of the sole, a dynamic element mounted within a metatarsus support area of the sole for storing and releasing energy caused by a person shifting laterally, the dynamic element including a support plate having at least a first pair of elastically deformable branch elements extending from a central portion of the support plate toward an arch portion of the sole with the branch elements extending on opposite sides of the longitudinal axis (L) and at least a second pair of elastically deformable branch elements extending from the central portion of the support plate, opposite the first pair, toward a front portion of the sole and so as to be on opposite sides of the longitudinal axis (L), ~~and on either side with respect to said axis, characterized in that the dynamic element, comprising a lateral return plate~~

~~(3, 30) is positioned in the sole so as to extend longitudinally beneath a zone corresponding to the arch of the foot and at least a part of the front part of the foot, and comprises, on either side of a support zone of the metatarsus, two antagonistic lateral ground support parts (4, 5, 6, 7; 4', 5', 6', 7') which are elastically deformable, and interacting and wherein the elastically deformable branch elements of each pair act in opposition with one another~~ [[,]] so as to store and release energy when [[said]] the sole is subjected to lateral stresses.

2.(currently amended) [[Shoe]] The sports shoe according to Claim 1, in which the dynamic element is located between an outer layer ~~[(1)]~~ and an intermediate layer ~~[(2)]~~ of the sole ~~which are disconnected at least locally, characterized in that and wherein the intermediate layer (2) is fixed on is secured to the outer layer (1) at the level of a part (1e) forming the at a heel portion of the sole and/or at the level of the periphery or the rising edges (1c, 1d) of a and at the front part (1f) portion of~~ [[said]] the sole.

3.(currently amended) [[Shoe]] The sports shoe according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that the return plate (3) comprises four branches (4 to 7, 4' to 7') defining for example the 2 wherein the branch elements together form of an X, each of the~~

~~branches (4 to 7, 4' to 7')~~ and each of the branch elements bearing on a separate compressible support element on an upper face of the lower portion of the sole (4a, 5a, 6a, 7a).

4. (currently amended) [[Shoe]] The sports shoe according to Claim 3, characterized in that the four branches (4, 5, 6, 7) are connected together wherein the central portion of the support plate includes a groove which extends between the two pairs of branch elements so as to be transversely oriented with respect to the longitudinal axis of the sole.

5. (currently amended) [[Shoe]] The sports shoe according to Claim 3, characterized in that the four branches (4', 5', 6', 7') are connected in twos to constitute two independent pairs 4 wherein the two pairs of branch elements are elastically deformable relative to one another along the groove.

6. (canceled)

7. (new) The sports shoe of Claim 5 wherein the support plate includes zones of increased material thickness that extend from a lower surface thereof and along a portion of each of the branch elements, and openings in the sole in which the zones of increased thickness are cooperatively seated.

8.(new) The sports shoe of Claim 3 wherein the support elements are pieces that are added to the inner face of the sole.

9.(new) The sports shoe according to Claim 1 wherein the central portion of the support plate includes a groove which extends between the two pairs of branch elements so as to be transversely oriented with respect to the longitudinal axis of the sole.

10.(new) The sports shoe according to Claim 9 wherein the two pairs of branch elements are elastically deformable relative to one another along the groove.

11.(new) The sports shoe according to Claim 10 wherein the branch elements of the support plate extend diagonally outwardly relative to the longitudinal axis of the sole.

12.(new) The sports shoe of Claim 10 wherein the support plate includes zones of increased material thickness that extend from a lower surface thereof and along a portion of each of the branch elements, and openings in the sole in which the zones of increased thickness are cooperatively seated.

13.(new) The sports shoe according to Claim 1 wherein the branch elements of the support plate extend diagonally outwardly

relative to the longitudinal axis of the sole.

14.(new) The sports shoe of Claim 13 wherein the support plate includes zones of increased material thickness that extend from a lower surface thereof and along a portion of each of the branch elements, and openings in the sole in which the zones of increased thickness are cooperatively seated.